

NATIONAL GEOSPATIAL-INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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NEWS RELEASE

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NGA Bids Fond Farewell to Director

BETHESDA, Md.—In a ceremony at its Bethesda headquarters, the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA) said farewell to its Director, retired Air Force Lt. Gen. James R. Clapper Jr., who departed today after almost five years at NGA's helm.

Clapper was the first civilian head of the agency and also its longest-serving director.

NGA will operate for the next few weeks under the leadership of Lloyd B. Rowland, NGA Acting Deputy Director. Rowland previously served as the NGA Business Executive and recently assumed duties as the Acting Deputy Director.

The Department of Defense announced today Navy Rear Adm. Robert B. Murrett has been nominated for appointment to the grade of vice admiral and assignment as director, NGA. Murrett is currently serving as director of Naval Intelligence, N2, Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, Pentagon, Washington, D.C.

The Honorable Stephen A. Cambone, DoD Undersecretary of Defense for Intelligence, presented Clapper the DoD Distinguished Civilian Service Award. The citation read in part, "General Clapper pioneered the establishment of geospatial intelligence (GEOINT) as a critical component of the nation's defense, to the benefit of men and women serving in uniform, senior policy makers, the Congress, and the President."

The guest speaker at the ceremony was The Honorable George J. Tenet, former Director of Central Intelligence. He said, "As an intelligence officer, Jim has mastered the mundane and the extraordinary, the simple and the complex. He has done this with an eye to innovation and an ear to the voices of those he has led. He is a great leader that knows how to get the best from fantastic people."

In his departing remarks, Clapper said, "In looking back over the past five years, I am proudest of, and humbled by, the magnificent workforce of NGA. I include our government employees, contractors, and military members."

In a ceremony later this month, Clapper will receive the prestigious Baker Award, which is administered by the Intelligence and National Security Alliance. The award recognizes individuals who have made significant contributions to the intelligence community and national security. Previous awardees include Judge William H. Webster, The Honorable William J. Perry, The Honorable George J. Tenet, and Lt Gen Brent Scowcroft, USAF (Ret.)

NGA is a Department of Defense combat support agency and a member of the National Intelligence Community. The Agency's mission is to provide timely, relevant and accurate geospatial intelligence in support of our national security. The term "geospatial intelligence" means the exploitation and analysis of imagery and geospatial information to describe, assess and visually depict physical features and geographically referenced activities on the earth. Geospatial intelligence consists of imagery, imagery intelligence, and geospatial information.

Headquartered in Bethesda, Md., NGA has major facilities in the Washington, D.C., Northern Virginia and St. Louis, Mo., areas with NGA support teams worldwide. Visit our Web site at http://www.nga.mil.